



STARTFORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

**MEDICAL OFFICER'S
REPORT**

for the Year ended
31st December, 1972

H. R. Morrison, M.B., Ch.B. D.P.H.

TO: THE CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, of the
STARTFORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year ended 31st December, 1972.

The mid-year population, as estimated by the Registrar General, was 3,480, being 60 more than in 1971.

The total number of births was 53, there being one death of a child under one year of age, giving an infantile mortality rate of 19 compared with 17 for England and Wales, No maternal deaths occurred during the year under review.

Deaths totalled 54 (41 in 1971) giving a death rate of 14.00 which is slightly higher than that for England and Wales at 12.1.

Principal causes of death were - 20 heart disease (21 in 1971), 14 from cancer (4 in 1971), 11 from vascular lesions of the nervous system (9 in 1971).

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL, HOUSING AND WATER SUPPLY

These matters are dealt with by the Public Health Inspector in his report which follows at the end of my report. I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to him and other members of his staff for their co-operation and help.

H.R. MORRISON
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

<u>Medical Officer of Health</u>	Dr. H.R. Morrison M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
<u>Public Health Inspector</u>	C.D. Hunter, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.I.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District in acres	...	97,630
Resident Population, mid-year estimate	...	3,480
Number of inhabited houses	...	1,535
Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1972	...	231,064
Sum represented by penny rate	...	2,246
Rate in £ levied at 1st April, 1972	...	78,5p

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The number of live births registered during the year was 53 (Birth Rate 17.20) as against 62 in 1971 (19.50). The Birth Rate comparisons show that the rate for the District is higher than that for the rest of England and Wales (14.8).

Birth Rate Comparisons

<u>Live Births</u>	per 1,000 population, as adjusted by Comparability Factor.
<u>Still Births</u>	per 1,000 total live and still births.

	<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Still Births</u>
1971 Startforth Rural District	19.50	00.00
1972 Startforth Rural District	17.20	19.00
1972 England and Wales	14.80	12.00

	<u>1971</u>		<u>1972</u>	
<u>Analysis of Births</u>	M	F	M	F
<u>Live Births</u>				
Legitimate	28	31	23	29
Illegitimate	2	1	0	1
	<u>30</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>30</u>

Illegitimate Live Births = 1.00.

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births = 17.20.

Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births = 00.00.

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks) = 19.00.

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week) = 19.00.

Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) = 37.00

Still Births

		<u>1971</u>		<u>1972</u>	
		M	F	M	F
Legitimate	...	-	-	-	1
Illegitimate	...	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	1

Deaths

Maternal Mortality & Infantile Mortality

No maternal deaths were registered in the District during the year. One infant death was registered.

Infantile Mortality Comparisons per 1,000 Live Births

Startforth Rural District 1972	...	19.00
Startforth Rural District 1971	...	16.00
England and Wales, 1972	...	17.00

Deaths from all causes.

During 1972 there were 54 deaths from all causes registered in the District, as against 41 in 1971. The death rate (14.00) being higher than that for England and Wales (12.1).

Death Rate Comparisons - Per 1,000 Population as Adjusted by Comparability Factor.

Startforth Rural District 1971	12.50
Startforth Rural District 1972	14.00
England and Wales, 1972	12.10

CAUSES OF ALL DEATHS - 1972, compared with 1971

	1971		1972	
	M	F	M	F
Malignant Neoplasm - Intestine	-	-	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm - Buccal Cavity	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	1	-	4	3
Malignant Neoplasm - Prostate	-	-	1	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms etc.	1	2	-	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	-	1	-
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasm	-	1	-	-
Ishaemic Heart Disease	13	8	10	8
Other Forms of Heart Disease	-	-	-	2
Cerebrovascular Disease	4	5	2	9
Other diseases of Circulatory System	2	-	2	-
Other diseases of Digestive System	-	1	-	-
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	-	-	2
Pneumonia	-	-	-	1
Congenital Anomalies	-	1	-	1
Birth Injury Difficult Labour etc.	-	-	-	1
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	-	-	1	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1	-	-
Total all Causes	22	19	23	31

Number of Deaths from Seven Chief Causes, Rates & Comparisons with Previous Year

	Per 1,000 Population		197	
	1971		197	
	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.
Cancer	4	1.16	14	4.02
Respiratory Disease	-	-	1	0.28
Heart Diseases	21	6.43	20	6.02
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Non Pulmonary	-	-	-	-
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	0.58	2	0.56
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	9	2.61	11	3.10
	36	10.78	48	13.98

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were 27 cases of notifiable and/or infectious diseases during 1972, as against 28 in 1971.

Analysis of Infectious Diseases and Comparisons with Previous Year.

	1971 <u>No. of Cases.</u>	1972 <u>No. of Cases</u>
Measles ...	26	22
Whooping Cough ...	2	2
Infective Jaundice...	-	1
Meningitis	-	2
	<u>28</u>	<u>27</u>

TUBERCULOSIS

No cases of Tuberculosis were notified in 1972.

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

No deaths from this disease were registered in the District in 1972 as in 1971.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT 1946

Sections 22, 23, 24, and 25

Care of Mothers and Young Children, Domiciliary Midwifery,
Health Visiting and Home Nursing.

The Infant Welfare Clinic held monthly at Barningham continued during the year. The District Medical Officer was in attendance as well as the District Nurse/Midwives.

The following number of visits paid to patients in the district by the Nurse/Midwife during 1972 under the respective categories are compared with those for 1971 :-

<u>Category</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Domiciliary Midwifery ...	631	558
Home Nursing ...	2,789	2,146
Health Visiting ...	1,856	2,511

Section 27 Ambulance Service

This service is provided by the North Riding County Council from the Ambulance Station which has a staff of one Driver-Foreman, one Shift Leader and six Driver-Attendants.

Section 28 - Prevention of illness, Care and After-Care.

The work of vaccination and immunisation, together with the advice spread by those working in the Public Health Service, Inspectors, Midwives, Maternity and Child Welfare Officers, Doctors and Nurses, must have a beneficial effect on the general health of the community.

Meals on Wheels.

A meals on wheels service is operated in the area and is organised by the W.V.S. 2536 meals were served during 1972.

Section 29 - Domestic Home Help Service.

This service is provided by the Social Services Department.

CHIROPODY

The North Riding County Council employ a chiropodist to provide the service for aged people, expectant mothers, physically handicapped, and mentally disordered. Sessions are held at Bowes, Cotherstone and Romaldkirk as and when required.

The Public Health work of the district has been carried usual by Mr. C.D. Hunter, the Public Health Inspector, who has compiled the remainder of this report.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS

Total Number of Inspections of Nuisances only	38
Total Number of Nuisances Found	8
Number Abated by Informal Action	7
Number Abated by Statutory Action	0

PUBLIC CLEANSING

During the year 1972 the Council continued, satisfactorily, to operate a service for the collection of refuse throughout the area. Only a small number of the most remote and inaccessible properties, mainly hill farms, are not served. In the main the frequency of collection is weekly although some isolated properties are visited less often and those farms situated at a distance from public roads are asked to bring their containers to the roadside for collection instead of receiving the usual back-door service.

Only one refuse tip is operated by the Council; unfortunately this is at one end of the district and necessitates a number of fairly long hauls. So far as possible the Ministry of Health recommendations for controlled tipping are followed but there is a scarcity of suitable covering material.

The service employs 2 vehicles and four men and casual labour is employed to assist during holiday periods etc. The total annual cost is £7404.

The septic tank emptying service continues to operate satisfactorily and is greatly appreciated by those house owners whose premises are not served by public sewer and who get a free annual cleansing of the tanks by the Council's Contractor. During 1972 a total of 258 tanks were emptied; the cost of the service being £796.

Satisfactory arrangements exist for the collection of bulky articles of refuse, such as disused furniture, although there is sometimes a delay of a week or two while arrangements are made for a special collection. Abandoned cars are dealt with under the Civic Amenities Act but the numbers so far encountered are not excessive

FACTORIES ACT 1961

<u>Inspections</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Factories in which section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority.	13	15
Factories not included above in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	8	10
Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	3	8

Cases in which Defects were found

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences					
Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-

Outworkers

One outworker is registered for the making, etc, of wearing apparel.

OFFICE SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Class of Premises	Number of Premises registered during the year.	Total Number of registered premises at end of year.	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices	-	2	1
Retail Shops	-	2	2
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-	-
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	-	6	6
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	10	9

The number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises was 23.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The following Establishments are registered under the Food Hygiene Regulations 1960.

Category	Number of Premises	Number complying with Regulation 16.	Number to which Regulation 19 applies	Number complying with Regulation 19.
Grocer and General Store	15	15	15	14
Cafes and Restaurants	3	3	3	3
Butchers Shops	1	1	1	1
Hotels and Inns	16	16	16	16
Licenced Clubs	4	4	4	4

Fifteen of the above premises are registered to store ice cream for sale.

Three privately owned slaughterhouses are registered and 155 visits for meat inspection were made during the year. The tables overleaf show the details of the carcasses inspected during the year.

The total weight of meat condemned was 827 lbs, a very small proportion of the whole and an indication of the high quality of the animals slaughtered.

DETAILS OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND EXAMINED - 1972

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	338	-	222	1352	57	-
Number inspected	338	-	222	1352	57	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	12	-	3	8	1	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	3.55%	-	1.35%	0.59%	1.75%	-
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u> Whole Carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcass of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

CAMPING AND CARAVANNING

The total number of licensed caravan sites at the end of the year 1972 was 21. With five exceptions these sites are for very small numbers of caravans (less than five) and little difficulty is experienced in their control. In addition there are four small sites operating under exemption certificates from the Caravan Club.

During 1972 a Council-owned privately-run site for 68 caravans on the area of the former Middleton in Teesdale Railway Station was opened.

There are no licensed camping sites in the area. There would appear to be a need for such facilities to be provided but the proposition is clearly not attractive commercially.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Council now possess satisfactory sewerage systems at Cotherstone, Mickleton, Barningham, Startforth, Romaldkirk, Bowes, Boldron, Ovington and Hutton Magna.

There is only one village, Lartington, where sewerage facilities are not provided and for which provisional plans were made in the Council's post-war programme. All other communities are small and scattered and the sewerage of these could only be considered necessary if urgent public health problems arose and were felt to outweigh the economic consideration involved.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supplies throughout the area are under the control of the Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board. No new schemes were implemented during 1972.

A total of 6 samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year, of these 5 were unsatisfactory, all from private supplies. Advice as to remedial measures was offered,

In addition to the foregoing the Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board carry out regular routine examinations of all supplies under their control, both bacteriologically and chemically. No chemical analyses have been made on the samples taken by the Department and I am indebted to the Water Board's Chemist for the information given overleaf which represents the average figure of a number of chemical analyses of the public supplies. Figures given are expressed as parts per million except where otherwise stated.

One thousand and eighty six houses are connected to the public mains in the area and a total of four hundred and twenty six are dependent on private supplies of varying sorts, primarily springs. An analysis of these figures is given in the second table overleaf.

HOUSING

The Council owns ninety-six houses and twenty four bungalows.

With the exception of the village of Startforth, there is little demand for further Council house building in the district; much of the need is satisfied by the casual vacancies arising in existing dwellings.

During the year applications have been approved for both standard and discretionary grants. 10 standard grants were approved and 28 discretionary grant. The total number of grants approved since the introduction of the schemes is 451. The average figure paid during the year for standard grants was £235 and for discretionary grants £860.

RODENT CONTROL

During the year a total of 68 treatments for the elimination of rats and mice were carried out using the principles laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food.

PROPERTIES SUPPLIED WITH WATER

FROM PUBLIC MAINS SUPPLIES

Parish	Population (Estimated)	No. of Dwellings	No. of Dwellings with Mains Water	Population Supplies with Mains water (Estimated)
Barforth	76	34	10	22
Barningham	155	69	57	128
Boldron	90	40	25	56
Bowes	353	158	99	222
Brignall	52	23	2	5
Cotherstone	535	239	215	482
Egglesstone Abbey	16	7	6	13
Gilmonby	43	19	-	-
Holwick	99	44	15	34
Hope	11	5	-	-
Hunderthwaite	110	49	13	29
Hutton Magna	84	38	23	52
Lartington	119	53	29	65
Lunedale	110	49	-	-
Mickleton	380	170	128	287
Ovington	116	52	52	116
Rokeby	85	38	9	20
Romaldkirk	185	83	79	177
Szargill	36	16	-	-
Startforth	660	295	289	647
Wycliffe-with- Thorpe	105	47	35	78
TOTAL	3,420	1,528	1,086	2,433

TEES VALLEY AND CLEVELAND WATER BOARD
Analyses of Water Supplies
Averages for the year 1972
Results expressed in parts per million.

	Lartington Gravitation Supply (37 samples)	Barthard Lystle Urban District Reservoir Startforth Village (3 samples)	Hunderthwaite (7 samples)	Helwick (7 samples)	Bowes - Boldron (7 samples)	Barningham (7 samples)
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.03
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.08	0.04	0.02	0.09	0.04	0.06
Nitrite Nitrogen	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	0.02	<0.01
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.37	0.51	0.49	0.32	0.25	0.40
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hrs. at 27°C	3.4	0.1	0.1	4.5	0.1	1.5
Colour (Ptazen)	32.5	<5	<5	35	NIL	8
Turbidity (B.T.U's) (A.P.H.A.)	0.9	7.3	0.3	1.2	0.6	0.7
pH	7.7	7.3	7.1	7.5	7.2	7.6
Free Carbon Dioxide	3	6	26	6	20	6
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	35	70	165	99	305	120
Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃	35	70	165	90	123	123
Non-Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃	25	10	15	10	15	15
Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	60	75	180	100	195	135
Calcium Hardness as CaCO ₃	50	65	140	90	150	120
Magnesium Hardness as CaCO ₃	10	10	40	10	45	15
Chlorides as Cl	13	9	11	11	17	13
Silicates as SiO ₂	2.2	8	10	5	16	7.5
Iron as Fe	0.14	0.05	0.07	0.19	0.07	<0.04
Dissolved Solids (dried at 180°C)	110	110	210	135	370	165
Sodium as Na	4.5	6.2	7.4	7.4	61	6.7
Potassium as K	0.9	1.1	2.5	0.45	21	1.1
Conductivity at 20°C (micromhos)	135	165	315	190	550	250
Total No. of Bacteriological samples taken	395	37	25	25	27	27
No. of above showing no coliforms	388	36	25	25	26	25

< = less than

